

STATE INTERAGENCY COUNCIL (SIAC)

September Meeting Summary



Date | time September 23, 2020 | 10:00 a.m. | **Meeting Location** virtually via Zoom

Meeting called to order by Marta Miranda-Straub,
Commissioner of Department for Community Based Services & SIAC Chair

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & UPDATES

Marta Miranda-Straub, Commissioner of Department for Community Based Services (DCBS) and SIAC Chair, welcomed members/alternates and guests to the meeting, then called the meeting to order.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Review of July Meeting Summary and August Strategic Planning Reports

Lea Taylor, SIAC Administrator, stated that there are additions to the attendance list on the August 20 strategic planning report. **Rachel Bingham** made a motion to approve with the updated attendance list. **Vestena Robbins** – second to the motion. Motion carried.

Annual Recommendations to the Governor and Legislative Research Commission

Lea Taylor, SIAC Administrator, reported that Members are continuing to work on the recommendations, so there is not a draft to share today. Ms. Taylor requested that Members/Designees and Standing Committees continue to submit feedback via email.

Buffalo Trace RIAC Youth Application

Vestena Robbins made a motion to appoint Ms. Jackson as the Buffalo Trace RIAC Youth Representative. **Missy Brownson Ross** – second to the motion. **Marta Miranda-Straub**, SIAC Chair, appointed Ms. Jackson.

Strategic Planning Subcommittees

Lea Taylor, SIAC Administrator, reported the subcommittees had planned to report out today; however, a few are still working, so we want to give them adequate time. An update will be provided as soon as the subcommittees complete their tasks.

SOCIAL ECOLOGICAL MODEL

Miriam Silman, Project AWARE/Trauma Informed Care Program Administrator, and **Phyllis Millspaugh**, Assistant Director of Division of Behavioral Health, at DBHDID provided an in-depth presentation and explanation of the Social Ecological Model (SEM) that SIAC will use moving forward. The presenters walked through an example of a SIAC goal using the SEM. They provided examples at each level: individual, interpersonal, organizational, community, and policy. They also explained, using the model, how each SIAC member agency has a role. A copy of the PowerPoint is available [see *Meeting Handouts*]. SIAC will use SEM for its two-year strategic plan and Standing Committees will be asked to use SEM when reporting out. Members will begin to see this as a standing item on the SIAC agenda.

SIAC MEMBER UPDATES

Marta Miranda-Straub, DCBS, reported the department is using five pillars for the vision and mission of building a 21st century Cabinet to decrease barriers and increase accessibility and transparency. Pillars: 1. Equity and Social Economic Justice with racial equity and eliminating poverty as the foundation; 2. Trauma and Engaged Healing for our clients and staff; 3. Health, which includes behavioral health and the opioid crisis; 4. Family, Children, and Youth, which includes biological families as well as foster families and Kinship Care; and 5. Operations, Implementation, and Evaluation. Commissioner Miranda-Straub reported there is a 25-member group that represents every position of every region. Commissioner Miranda-Straub discussed how they used employee surveys, existing client surveys, alumni client surveys,

and community partners, and categorized the results into themes. DCBS will look at strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities to create a six-month stabilization plan, followed by an 18-month strategic plan.

Rachel Bingham, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), reported Westat is hosting a webinar highlighting the 3-year study on Kentucky's Juvenile Justice System and the Reforms. Ms. Bingham reported the Urban Institute completed their assessment of Kentucky's Court Designated Worker Diversion Program. Ms. Bingham reported that this week, AOC will be releasing the Racial Disparity Guide; once that link is available, it will be shared with SIAC.

Vestena Robbins, Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities (DBHDID), reported leadership changes in the department: Deputy Commissioner Dee Werline left to take the CEO position at New Vista; Georgianne McCain, human resources, is retiring and taking a position outside of state government; and Tanya Dickinson has returned to oversee an assisted outpatient treatment grant. Dr. Robbins reported that through a SAMHSA COVID Emergency Grant, DBHDID has partnered with the UK Center on Trauma and Children, under Dr. Ginny Sprang's leadership, to develop "Well at Work Podcasts" designed to support workforce resilience. Dr. Robbins reported there continues to be considerable work with the System of Care FIVE grant, including a collaborative to support both mental health providers and DCBS workers around secondary traumatic stress. Dr. Robbins reported an upcoming initiative under the SOC FIVE grant will be to launch evidence based practice collaboratives to grow the capacity of the treatment providers.

Christina Weeter, Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), reported their new Commissioner, Dr. Jason Glass, joined KDE this month, and Associate Commissioner Kelly Foster is going to be his designee for SIAC. Ms. Weeter reported that September 15 was the statutory deadline for all school and district staff, as well as students in grades 6-12, to complete suicide prevention training. Ms. Weeter reported KDE is aware of growing concerns for staff and students' mental health, so KDE gathered all of the COVID-19 health and safety resources and created a specific COVID-19 page for health and safety resources. Ms. Weeter reported KDE has been working for some time with Dr. Roger Cleveland and his colleagues at KSU Center for Research on Eradication of Educational Disparities to provide training for KDE Staff regarding culturally-responsive practices and implicit bias.

William Heffron, Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), reported DJJ's census for the last few weeks is lowest since the department was formed, due in-part to Juvenile Justice Reform and due to COVID. Dr. Heffron reported the increase of DJJ staff interacting more with families has continued. Dr. Heffron reported an increase in the number of youth with serious issues entering detention centers. Dr. Heffron shared that the youth with more serious charges seems to take longer to go through the court process, which means youth sit in detention for quite a while. Dr. Heffron reported concern regarding the disproportionate number of minority youth, which seems to be exaggerated over the last 6 months.

Judy Theriot, Department for Medicaid Services (DMS), reported DMS is continuing to work toward a single preferred drug list that will go into effect in January. Dr. Theriot reported there are co-pays, required by regulation; however, they are nominal fees of \$1.00. Dr. Theriot reported DMS is collaborating with Public Health on several things, including infant mortality and immunizations. Dr. Theriot introduced Leslie Hoffmann from DMS to provide an update on the 1115 waiver. Ms. Hoffmann reported DMS was asked to submit an 1115 waiver to provide services to incarcerated members, and Ms. Hoffmann reported they are also looking into pretrial members. Ms. Hoffmann reported this is pending CMS approval. Ms. Hoffmann reported Kentucky is first state in the nation trying to work on this. Ms. Hoffmann reported DMS has collaborated with DBHDID, Department of Corrections, and Office of the Inspector General. Ms. Hoffmann reported that DMC submitted a draft to CMS, with positive feedback so far.

Callie Cartmell, Youth Representative, reported SIAC youth and parent representatives and SOC FIVE grant staff have started a new monthly call to connect with the RIAC youth and parent representatives. Ms. Cartmell relayed a concern reported to her regarding a struggle with a hospital and their CMHC while trying to receive services through COVID. Lea Taylor, SIAC Administrator, stated DBHDID staff will follow up with Ms. Cartmell to offer support in resolving this.

Ivanora Alexander, Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs (OCSHCN), reported their clinics are now open in all areas for in-person services, following the Healthy at Work guidelines. Ms. Alexander reported staff continue telecommuting, only going into the clinic on clinic days or for appointments with families. Ms. Alexander reported their office in Bowling Green relocated to a shared building with other state agencies.

Denitta Mercier, Parent Representative, reported the first monthly call with youth and parent representatives was very successful. Ms. Mercier reported the Joint Meeting took place virtually on the 12th, which was also National Encouragement Day. Ms. Mercier reported they discussed barriers and identified the top five, with number one being

communication. Ms. Mercier reported her term expired as the Barren River RIAC Parent Representative, and Sonny Mercier now serves in that role. Ms. Mercier emphasized that it starts with the family and youth.

Rhonda Logsdon, KY-SPIN, Family Organization Representative, reported they continue to offer trainings and webinars for family, with several upcoming events in September and October. Ms. Logsdon reported Kentucky Partnership for Families and Children are also continuing to host multiple virtual events; and the two family organizations will partner to host a free virtual conference for youth and parents on November 6 and 7; Ms. Logsdon will share the flyer once it is available. Ms. Logsdon shared that regardless of the service that children/youth and their families receive, receiving communication during this time is a huge barrier facing families. Ms. Logsdon expressed concern for children/youth on Medicaid waivers receiving services through the waiver during school hours while on remote learning. Ms. Logsdon said that some states have been able to get permission to do so, and it is not a duplication of services due to remote learning schools providing services through alternate methods such as video conferencing/electronic means.

Melissa Goins, Family Resource & Youth Services Centers (FRYSC), reported they have focused on their FRYSC staff's mental health, self-awareness, and well-being the last couple of months. Ms. Goins discussed strategies they are utilizing to assist their staff in coping with stress. One initiative is hosting a weekly virtual meeting to offer (not mandatory) time for FRYSCs to connect with each other. They offer tools for the first part, then they go into breakout rooms with guided questions.

Rob Ellis, Kentucky Housing Corporation (KHC), stated the CDC announced on September 4 that due to COVID, there cannot be any evictions nationwide until December 31, and KHC is active providing education to property owners and tenants. Mr. Ellis reported that on September 8, the Governor's office announced a Healthy at Home Eviction Fund. Mr. Ellis reported KHC started administering \$15 million in relief funds on Monday to provide tenants back payment of rent to prevent eviction once the ban has lifted.

Cora McNabb, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), reported that beginning October 1, all four of the priority categories will be open. Ms. McNabb reported Federal law requires OVR to serve individuals with the most significant disabilities first which would be Category 1. Ms. McNabb reported their service numbers are down, in part because many have chosen to stay healthy at home and not seek employment at this time. Ms. McNabb reported she has posted a non-merit position for Division Director for the Carl D. Perkins Center in Thelma KY.

Missy Brownson Ross, Council on Post-secondary Education (CPE), reported they have translated all face-to-face services provided to students in our districts. Ms. Brownson Ross reported they are working on supporting students as well as schools and families. Ms. Brownson Ross reported they have started texting students and families to stay in touch. Ms. Brownson Ross reported that today on Facebook they are launching the GEAR UP Kentucky Family, which is for parents, other family members, other caring adults. This page is a dedicated space for exchanging information and ideas as well as learn about ways to support student success.

Lea Taylor, SIAC Administrator, shared a document from the Racial & Ethnic Disparities (RED) Standing Committee [see Meeting Handouts] titled *Substance Use Disorder through the Lens of Race & Equity*. RED developed this two-page flyer showing disparities at the intersection of substance use and race. The flyer will be distributed via email later today.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Big Sandy RIAC: Suicide Prevention Efforts – PSA – October
- Race Child Community Welfare – Lynette Ponder, DCBS – October
- RIAC: Updates on COVID-19 Funding Impact on the Regions – Jefferson and Barren River RIACs – October and November
- Kentucky SKY – Kelly Pullen – tentatively November
- Update on DCBS Implementation of Family First – DCBS staff – tentatively October or November

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marta Miranda-Straub, SIAC Chair, asked for any public comment; there was none.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, October 28, 2020 | 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. EST | Location: Zoom

ADJOURNMENT

Melissa Goins made motion to adjourn. **William Heffron** – second to the motion. Motion carried
Marta Miranda-Straub, SIAC Chair, adjourned the meeting.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Social Emotional Health & Well-being and Racial & Ethnic Disparities Standing Committees met prior to SIAC.

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

TASK:	RESPONSIBLE PARTY:
Annual Recommendations to the Governor and Legislative Research Commission (LRC)	Members/Designees as well as Standing Committees – continue to email recommendations and feedback to Lea.Taylor@ky.gov
Complete SIAC's strategic plan	Subcommittees to complete assigned sections

IN ATTENDANCE

Members/Designees:

Marta Miranda-Straub, DCBS

Rhonda Logsdon, KY-SPIN

Rachel Bingham, AOC

Denitta Mercier, Parent Representative

Callie Cartmell, Youth Representative

Missy Brownson Ross, CPE

Judy Theriot, DMS

Rob Ellis, KHC

Vestena Robbins, DBHDID

Christina Weeter, KDE

Ivanora Alexander, OCSHCN

William Heffron, DJJ

Melissa Goins, FRYSC

Kristen Martin, DPH

Cora McNabb, OVR

Staff: Lea Taylor, SIAC Administrator, DBHDID; Lori Ramage, Administrative Specialist, DBHDID; Vanessa Brewer, RIAC Administrator, DBHDID

Guest List:

See Attached Zoom Report